

LESSON 6

Jungere dextras.

To join right hands (i.e., to shake hands). —VIRGIL

Key Words

adjunct
aptitude
astringent
conjugal

conjugate
inept
injunction

juncture
strait
stringent
subjugate

Familiar Words

apt
lariat

APO, APERE, EPI, APTUM <L. "to fasten," "to attach"

1. aptitude (ăp'tə tōd)

n. A natural talent or ability; quickness in learning.

Fulfilling an essential role, Cherokee women for centuries proved their **aptitude** for agriculture, developing ingenious farming methods.

2. inept (in ěpt') [in <L. "not"]

adj. 1. Without skill.

So **inept** that he cannot kick a football or fly a kite, Charlie Brown suffers Lucy's perennial contempt.

2. Inappropriate or out of place; foolish or absurd.

To say "Hi, there!" upon meeting a dignified official would be **inept**.

ineptitude, *n.*



Familiar Words

conjunction
join
junction

JUNGO, JUNGERE, JUNXI, JUNCTUM

<L. "to join"

3. conjugal (kŏn'jə gəl) [con = cum <L. "with"]

adj. Pertaining to marriage; the relation of husband and wife.

Interviewed on television, the couple celebrating their eightieth wedding anniversary asserted that **conjugal** harmony depends on mutual respect and humor.

conjugality, *n.*; **conjugally**, *adv.*



Challenge Words

conjoin
enjoin
junta
subjoin
subjunctive



4. **adjunct** (ăj'ŭngkt) [*ad* <L. "to," "toward"]
n. An added part not essential to the whole.

The coccyx, or "tailbone," an **adjunct** of the spinal column, no longer has a function.

adjunctive, *adj.*

5. **conjugate** (kŏn'jə gāt) [*con* = *cum* <L. "with"]
tr. v. To give forms of verbs in a fixed order.

Conjugate the present tense of the verb "to see" as follows: I see, you see, he sees (singular); we see, you see, they see (plural).

conjugation, *n.*

6. **injunction** (ĭn jŭngk'shən) [*in* <L. "in"]
n. An authoritative command or order.

University students in China received an **injunction** against protest marches.

7. **junction** (jŭngk'chər)
n. 1. A serious state of affairs.

Environmentalists say that at this **junction** we must protect rain forests around the globe to prevent harmful atmospheric changes.

2. The condition or point of being joined.

The Panama Canal has provided the **junction** of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

8. **subjugate** (sŭb'jə gāt') [*sub* <L. "under"]
tr. v. To conquer; to dominate completely.

Soon after the German army **subjugated** Poland in 1939, Britain declared war.

subjugation, *n.*

Familiar Words

strict
 prestige
 restrict
 restriction

STRINGO, STRINGERE, STRINXI, STRICTUM <L. "to draw together tightly," "to tie"



9. **astrigent** (ə strĭn'jənt) [*a* = *ad* <L. "to"]
adj. Harsh; severe.

Astringent criticism from one political candidate often draws an equally biting response from an opponent.

Challenge Words

constrain
constraint
restrictive
stricture

n. A substance that tightens tissues. (In medicine, a substance constricting living tissue.)

If you nick yourself, apply an **astrigent** to stop the bleeding.

astringency, *n.*

10. strait (strāt)

n. 1. A narrow passage of water connecting two large bodies of water.

The **Strait** of Gibraltar links the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea.

2. (usually plural) A difficulty or bad position.

During the Depression of the 1930s, many people were in economic **straits**.

11. stringent (strɪnˈjənt)

adj. 1. Severe; constricted; tight.

Members of the Constitutional Convention met under **stringent** rules of secrecy lest rumor leak out and subvert their effort.

2. Pertaining to scarcity of money.

Because of **stringent** budget cuts, some schools could no longer finance programs in music and art.

stringency, *n.*; **stringently**, *adv.*

EXERCISE 6A

Circle the letter of the best SYNONYM (the word or phrase most nearly the same as the word in bold-faced type).

1. a **junction** in the family's welfare a. confusion b. crisis
c. separation d. puncture e. healing
2. a presidential **injunction** a. award b. suggestion c. command
d. committee e. issue
3. **aptitude** in science a. experience b. fame c. opinion d. failure
e. talent
4. to **subjugate** a people a. exonerate b. offend c. mollify
d. fight e. conquer
5. an expert in **conjugation** a. chairing meetings b. cheerleading
c. marriage counseling d. ordering verb forms e. manufacturing bottles
6. a(n) **adjunct** to the campsite a. benefit b. route c. recent
addition d. essential addition e. nonessential addition

Circle the letter of the best ANTONYM (the word or phrase most nearly opposite the word in bold-faced type).

7. a **stringent** rule a. perennial b. severe c. relaxed d. perverse
e. useful
8. a songwriter's **aststringent** parody a. soothing b. asinine
c. omniscient d. salient e. abject
9. sudden academic **straits** a. difficulties b. confusion c. channels
d. successes e. rigors
10. a(n) **inept** renegade a. artless b. clever c. clumsy d. capricious
e. devious

EXERCISE 6B

Circle the letter of the sentence in which the word in bold-faced type is used incorrectly.

1. a. The city council placed an **injunction** against new buildings of more than three stories.
b. My parents' **injunction** was "Be home by midnight."
c. She sent out fifteen **injunctions** to her birthday party.
d. Many Muslim women obey the **injunction** to wear a *chador*, a garment covering all but the face and hands.
2. a. By urging independence from Great Britain, Mahatma Gandhi brought on a sharp **junction** in Indian affairs.
b. We agreed to meet at the **junction** of three major highways.
c. At **junctions**, when the world's supply of petroleum appears to dwindle, nuclear energy becomes a crucial issue.
d. Although we had studied the map carefully, we were surprised to find the two roads **junctioning**.
3. a. Verifying a **conjugal** contract in 1434, a painting by Jan van Eyck shows a well-to-do couple holding hands, with a dog and slippers symbolizing their marital faithfulness.
b. Well-matched **conjugally** and artistically, the acting team of Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne impressed audiences with well-rehearsed, natural dialogue.
c. In work that led to the discovery of radium, Marie and Pierre Curie were both scientific and **conjugal** partners.
d. The bride and bridegroom welcomed guests at their lavish **conjugality**.
4. a. After William the Conqueror **subjugated** the Anglo-Saxons in 1066, French became the official language in England.
b. **Subjugating** our bad habits is a life-long task.
c. Distinguished actresses like Katharine Cornell and Helen Hayes are able to **subjugate** their personalities in order to play a variety of characters unlike themselves.

- d. English trifle is a dessert that **subjugates** layers of cake and fruit under whipped cream.
5. a. The family's financial **straits** forced a move to a smaller house.
b. Ships carrying oil passed from the Persian Gulf through the **Strait** of Hormuz to the Gulf of Oman.
c. **Strait** talk is better than beating around the bush.
d. When a company shuts down, the entire town where it is located can be thrown into dire **straits**.
6. a. For a small wound, such as a pierced ear, peroxide is a recommended **astrigent**, with less sting than rubbing alcohol.
b. Comedians like Lily Tomlin and Woody Allen are sometimes **astrigent** in the characters they create but are nevertheless sympathetic to most human weakness.
c. Sailors need to know how to tie **astrigent** knots.
d. Students complained about the **astringency** of the punishment for excessive tardiness: a week of suspension.

EXERCISE 6C

Fill in each blank with the most appropriate word from Lesson 6. Use a word or any of its forms only once.

1. A(n) _____ to the flight of the satellite *Voyager 2* past Neptune has been the discovery of that planet's eight moons, previously thought to be only two.
2. For more than two hundred years Darby and Joan have represented a(n) _____ couple, devoted to one another throughout their long and humble lives.
3. Comedy teams like Abbott and Costello and Laurel and Hardy make us laugh because they are so _____ in handling objects and so ready to misunderstand one another.
4. Having not only a(n) _____ for but also a love of flying, Amelia Earhart proved that women could play an important role in aviation.
5. When you _____ the verb *swim* through six tenses in the third person plural, you supply the following: they swim, they swam, they will swim, they have swum, they had swum, and they will have swum.
6. Although adolescents often complain that parental rules about dating are too _____, they usually grow to appreciate the limitations.

REVIEW EXERCISES FOR LESSONS 5 AND 6

1 Matching: On the line at the left, write the letter of the word or phrase that most accurately defines the word in the left-hand column.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| _____ 1. tenacity | A. an uncrucial addition |
| _____ 2. strait | B. serious matters |
| _____ 3. subjugation | C. severity |
| _____ 4. contrition | D. shared sorrow |
| _____ 5. coherence | E. avoidance |
| _____ 6. colloquialism | F. skin tightener |
| _____ 7. stringency | G. sincere repentance |
| _____ 8. commiseration | H. order of verb forms |
| _____ 9. injunction | I. clumsiness |
| _____ 10. ineptitude | J. everyday speech |
| _____ 11. conjugality | K. persistence |
| _____ 12. junctures | L. command |
| _____ 13. aptitude | M. narrow water passage |
| _____ 14. astringent | N. sticking together |
| _____ 15. abstention | O. domination |
| _____ 16. conjugation | P. relationship in marriage |
| _____ 17. adjunct | Q. natural ability |

2 Fill in the blank or circle the letter of the best answer.

1. colloquial : stiffly formal speech : :
 a. stringent : tight control
 b. conjugated : orderly formation of verbs
 c. inept : awkward movement
 d. commodious : cramped living quarters
 e. subjugated : freedom
2. *stringere* : to tie : : *tenere* : _____
3. Which of the following English words does *not* contain a Latin root or prefix meaning "to join"?
 a. conjugal b. juncture c. aptitude d. subjugate e. adjunct